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[54] INHALATION DEVICE

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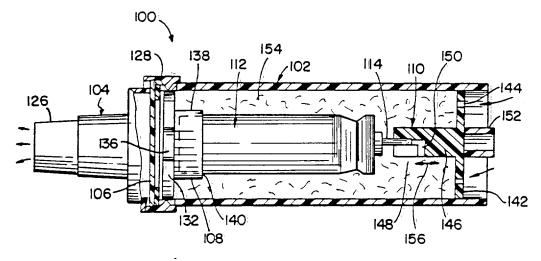
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[57] ABSTRACT

An inhalation device in the nature of a metered dose inhaler is designed specifically for existing respiratory. drugs to be employed in hospitals and/or by patients at home. The device is constructed of a housing which defines an aerosol chamber for a metered dose of a medicant containing aerosol from a cartridge. The cartridge is supported wholly within the aerosol chamber. An actuating valve mechanism is slidingly receiving within an open end of the housing and includes a projecting portion to which a compressive force may be applied. Upon application of the compressive force, for example, by forcing the open end of the housing against a supporting surface, the outlet valve mechanism of the cartridge is activated to dispense a metered dose of medicant into the aerosol chamber in the form of an aerosol.

26 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



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